

INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) revised the National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for ground-level ozone in July 1997. The new standard uses rolling eight-hour averages and is more stringent than the previous one-hour standard. An area is considered in violation of federal air quality standards when its fourth-highest daily ozone average, averaged over three years, exceeds 85 parts per billion (ppb). Based on measurements taken from 1998, 1999, and 2000, San Antonio's three-year average of 86 ppb qualified it as a "dirty air" or non-attainment city. That designation could result in the loss of federal highway funds, business and industrial restrictions, tougher vehicle inspection standards and increased prices at the gasoline station. This designation has been put on hold until recently when the Supreme Court ruled in favor of the lower courts decision that the 8-hour standard is legal but unenforceable.

This means that the EPA must rewrite their implementation policy, which may take several months. The EPA has stated that San Antonio's non-attainment designation will be once again put on hold until the implementation policy is finalized. If the policy is not completed by 2002, the three-year ozone average shifts to 1999, 2000 and 2001, affording San Antonio the opportunity to improve ozone readings this summer and keep its "clean air" or attainment status when the EPA begins to designate cities in violation of the federal standard. In other words, San Antonio has been given a second chance to stay in attainment if the ozone levels remain below 84 ppb this summer.

The Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC) developed an episodic program called the Ozone Action Day (OAD) Program to target specific days that may result in high ozone reading levels. TNRCC notifies the community of an OAD by 2 PM the day prior to an anticipated high ozone day in order to provide the community time to modify activities on the OAD. Through outreach efforts, citizens are provided information on altering activities that reduce emissions and pollution and consequently lower ozone levels.

Due to the disruptive nature of an episodic program, local stakeholders have shifted the emphasis away from an episodic program to a year-round, behavior changing approach. The new program is called "Clear the Air", and encourages changes that are both healthy for the environment and simple to implement most of the time. In addition, the community will continue to implement an episodic program similar to the previous OADs, now entitled "Air Quality Health Alert" days.

This *Air Quality Health Alert Plan* (AQHAP) establishes guidelines and procedures for reducing emissions of ozone-forming compounds into the atmosphere, both on "Alert" days as well as throughout the ozone season. City Departments, through voluntary compliance with the AQHAP, will modify certain activities on AQHA days. This year will be the sixth year that the City has reviewed and implemented a plan to reduce ozone. All essential and

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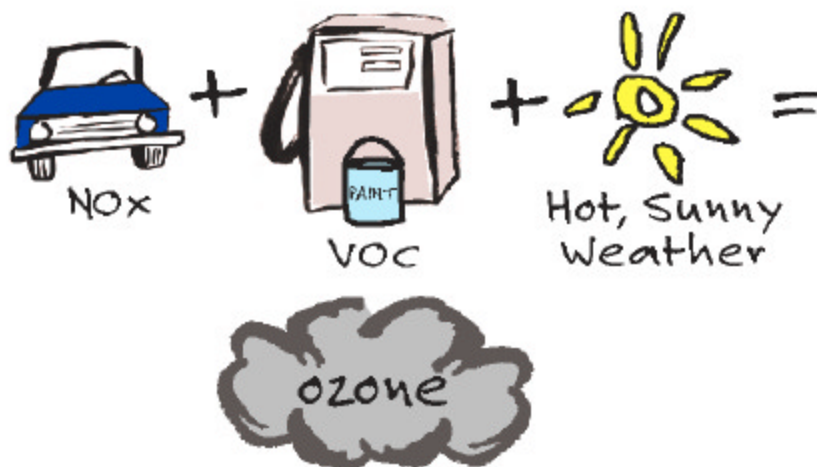
emergency services remain unaffected. Since the implementation of the AQHAP, many Governmental Agencies, School Districts, and Industries have developed their own Air Quality Plans. To date, over 300 plans were developed by private industry, Local Governments and School districts, and Clean Cities Coalition Stakeholders. These Agencies have voluntarily committed to reducing air pollution by submitting their plans to the Council of Governments for record.

The major source of pollution in the San Antonio region is automobiles and the increased pollution they generate during traffic jams and “rush hour.” Revisions to the 2001 AQHAP were designed to not only minimize the number of City vehicles on the roads during morning rush hour, but also explore the effectiveness of new alternative fuel technologies. The major revisions to the 2001 plan include:

- 1) **Flextime:** Each Department will evaluate and implement their approved flextime policy that was developed in early 2000 with the purpose of minimizing congestion during peak traffic hours.
- 2) **Telecommuting:** Each Department will evaluate and implement a seasonal or year-round telecommuting policy to minimize the overall number of vehicles traveling to and from City work areas.
- 3) **Hybrid-Electric Car Pilot Project:** The City is evaluating the cost effectiveness and performance of hybrid-electric technology. The Purchasing Department has procured two Toyota Prius Hybrid-Electric vehicles with the intent to implement this technology into the San Antonio Fleet if the pilot project is successful.
- 4) **Retrofit Technology:** Purchasing of applicable fuel line and electric spark controllers retrofit technology's are being explored. Successful devices have proven to reduce Hydrocarbon, Carbon Monoxide, and Nitrogen Oxides, while improving engine performance and fuel consumption.
- 5) **Service Contracts:** Department specific AQHA requirements will be incorporated into purchase and service contracts.
- 6) **Annual In-House Training:** Development of an annual training program to increase awareness of AQHAP responsibilities of Departments and employees. Placement of the AQHAP into orientation packets for new employees.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORICAL INFORMATION

What is ground-level ozone? Ground-level ozone is the major component of smog and is not itself emitted from any source. In general terms, uncontrollable factors such as sunlight, high temperatures and low winds combine with controllable emissions to form ground-level ozone. Emissions that contribute to ozone formation can be grouped into two basic classes: 1) volatile organic compounds (VOCs), such as fuels, solvents, paints, etc.; and 2) oxides of nitrogen (NO_x), which form as a by-product of burning fuels in air. Ground-level ozone can damage your health, aggravating allergies, asthma, and lung disease. Groups, such as children, field workers and the elderly, are most sensitive to increased levels of ground-level ozone.



The City believes that San Antonio can maintain clean air this ozone season if the entire community works together to reduce emissions, especially on AQHA days. To date, the San Antonio region has implemented numerous voluntary emission reduction programs, including episodic and year-round programs, use of alternative fuels in local fleets, and technical studies to characterize our situation.

The two largest local sources contributing to ozone in San Antonio are: (1) area sources, such as residential and commercial painting, refueling activities, and construction sources; and (2) mobile sources including automobiles, trucks, etc. In order to improve air quality in San Antonio, reducing emissions from gasoline engines is critical.

Table 1 below shows ozone concentrations for 1999 through 2000 that will be reviewed by EPA when determining if San Antonio meets the new standard. As shown, San Antonio has exceeded the new standard.

Air Quality Health Alert Plan

Table 1. Fourth Highest Eight-Hour Ozone Concentrations
(Source: Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission)

Monitor	4 th Highest Ozone Concentration (parts per billion)			
	1998	1999	2000	3-year Average
John Marshall High School	90	91	77	86

EMISSION REDUCTION MEASURES

Many City departments' operations consist of predominantly administrative duties. However, the use of City vehicles is sometimes required. Therefore, emission reduction measures are related to: (1) the use of alternative fuels in the entire City fleet; (2) reductions in emission from fueling activities; and (3) reductions in vehicle miles traveled, including trip reduction, car-pooling, rescheduling, encouraging use of public transit.

Refueling Plan

Upon receiving AQHAD notification, Purchasing Department on-duty supervisors at all fueling facilities will post AQHAD signs at entrance gates advising drivers of the next day's AQHAD and to refuel before close of business. Immediate action will be taken by all employees to refuel all assigned vehicles.

Gasoline pumps at North Loop, Northwest, Southeast, and Zarzamora Automotive Service Centers, Patrol East, Patrol South, Northside Police, Central Fueling Facility, and the Airport have been upgraded with vapor recovery systems. With this addition, vehicles will be allowed to refuel without restrictions during the ozone season.

Vehicles refueling with diesel, propane or compressed natural gas will not be restricted, nor will vehicles refueling at a service center retrofitted with Stage II VRS. All essential emergency service vehicles will be allowed to refuel as needed. A list of Designated Essential Vehicles have been established and are reviewed by the Public Works, Environmental Services, and Purchasing Departments and maintained by the Automotive Operations Division.

City Motor Pool Operations

Air Quality Health Alert Plan

During AQHADs, City motor pool vehicles will be issued only to drivers that have been cleared by their Department or Assistant Director, or Daniel V. Cardenas, Appointed Director of Environmental Services to perform essential duties. Such authorization will be documented on an authorization form furnished by each department to the Automotive Operations Division of Purchasing and General Services.

AIR QUALITY HEALTH ALERT DAY NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE
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To implement this AQHAP and to monitor progress and compliance, each department director has appointed one individual as the department's Air Quality Health Alert Coordinator (AQHAC), insuring that all of the City's efforts are coordinated. The Environmental Services Department will notify each coordinator when AQHADs are announced by the TNRCC. The AQHAC is then responsible for ensuring all departmental personnel are notified.

When an Air Quality Health Alert Day is called:

- The TNRCC will notify the AACOG by 2:00 PM the day prior to the predicted event. AACOG administers a fax broadcast system to over 300 organizations in the San Antonio region notifying them of an upcoming AQHAD. The Environmental Services Department is the first point of contact at the City.
- The Environmental Services Department will notify the City Manager's Office, the City Council Office, and Public Works Director of the pending event.
- The Environmental Services Department will notify each AQHAC or alternate. Notification will be made by e-mail to each AQHAC. Alternative notification arrangements will be made for AQHACs who do not have regular access to the City e-mail system. Employees will also be notified by an e-mail message sent to all COSA users from the Environmental Services Department. AQHACs are responsible for notifying their department and all employees who do not have access to e-mail. Employees are encouraged to respond to notifications received from TransGuide, local media, or other forms of communication.
- Public Works Station 1 will have a direct calling list for weekend notification.
- Employees may contact the Environmental Services Department, at 207-6440, or the TNRCC hotline, at 1-800-64TEXAS, if they need to confirm an AQHAD or are not receiving notification.

Air Quality Health Alert Plan

- The individual Department Directors and Departmental AQHAC will be responsible for the implementation of their departmental action plan.
- The Environmental Services Division will assist in insuring compliance by monitoring and providing recommendations to the Departments.

AIR QUALITY HEALTH ALERT COORDINATORS
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Department	Coordinator	Phone	Alternate	Phone	Fax
Alamodome	Egon Schwarm	207-3649	Henry Astudillo	207-3675	207-3666
Arts & Cultural Affairs	Rudy Contreras	207-6962	Ernestho Rubio	207-8488	228-0263
Asset Management	Lucercia Cisneros	207-7837	Laurel Jensen	207-4216	207-7888
Aviation	Clifford Hughs	207-3478	Comm Center	207-3433	207-3539
Budget & Employee Services	Rudy V. Lopez	207-7294	Cindy Lacy	207-6506	207-4026
Building Inspections	Julius Noble	207-8320	Nicholas Harris	207-8289	207-3315
City Attorney	Tom Shute	207-8954	Hollis Young	207-8920	207-4004
City Clerk	George Whitfield	207-6386	Julia Aguirre	207-6386	207-7032
City Council	Teresa Vasquez-Romero	207-7041	Janie Bieck	207-7041	207-7027
City Manager	Travis Bishop	207-7096	Melissa Vossmer	207-8089	207-4217
Code Compliance	Ruben Castillo	289-4376	Barbara Trout	207-8200	207-4467
Community Initiatives	Cruz Sanchez	207-7854	Oscar Lopez	207-7445	207-4388
Community Relations	Scott Wudel	207-4494	Bertha Lopez	207-7349	207-7237
Convention & Visitor's Bureau	Mary Elkins	207-6775	Richard Guevara	207-6727	207-6768
Convention Center Expansion Office	Yolanda Marquart	207-2236	Debra Hill	207-2236	207-2090
Convention Facilities	Robert Carr	207-8528	David Gonzales	207-8548	223-1495
Economic	Virginia Cobarrubius	207-	Robert Ayala	207-	207-

Air Quality Health Alert Plan

Department	Coordinator	Phone	Alternate	Phone	Fax
Development		8152		3935	8151
Environmental Services	Susan Stuver	207-6449	David Newman	207-6440	207-6411
Finance	Charles Ickerman	207-8664	Leticia Wawrzyniak	207-8648	207-8676
Fire	Mike Miller	207-8580	Steve Worley	207-8462	207-7971
Housing & Community Development	Jeanette Flores	207-6606	Drew Cameron	207-3600	886-0006
Human Resources	Rudy Lopez	207-7294	Cindy Lacy Margaret Gonzales	207-6506 207-6375	207-4026
Information Services	Rudy Chapa	207-7072	Caesar Bustos	207-4425	207-4422
Intergovernmental Relations	Sandra Grabow	207-7197	Mathew Polanco	207-7836	207-8544
Internal Review	James Castillo	207-8424	David M. Griffith	207-8420	207-4246
International Affairs	Bob Presser	207-8101	Cynthia Silva	207-8190	207-8113
Library	Richard Denning	207-2625	Janie Hernandez	207-2639	207-2603
Mayor's Office	Teresa Vasquez-Romero	207-7041	Janie Bieck	207-7041	207-7027
Metropolitan Health District	Jim Hardin	207-8849	Sam Sanchez	207-8853	207-8771
Municipal Courts	Craig Christie	207-7553	John Sandoval	207-7055	207-4258
Neighborhood Action	Daniel Martinez	207-8504	Barbara Trevino	207-7881	207-7914
Parks & Recreation	Augie Garcia	207-7870	Sylvia Molina	207-3082	207-4276
Planning	Mark MacDonald	207-7245	Emil Moncivais	207-7905	207-4441
Police	Ronald Grenrood	207-4128	Joe MacKay	207-8364	207-4267
Public Works	Ken Hettich	207-8068	Pam Bransford	207-8017	207-4406
Purchasing	J. Doug Goode	207-	John Jo Cantu	207-	207-

Air Quality Health Alert Plan

Department	Coordinator	Phone	Alternate	Phone	Fax
		8377		7850	4360
Risk Management	Robert Silvia	207-8702	Richard Cardenas	207-8672	207-4064

ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENTS' PLAN

Because of the emission reductions resulting from the use of alternative fuels and the installation of vapor recovery systems at fueling facilities, the AQHAP was modified to provide more flexibility in vehicle operations. However, there are still some activities, such as the use of small gasoline-powered equipment that do not have catalytic converters, street paving, paint striping, and others, that remain prohibited on AQHADs.

On AQHADs, all departments will implement the following:

- **Restrict all movement in City vehicles to an absolute minimum.** Use of City Motor Pool vehicles will be restricted to essential use only. Meetings requiring traveling by City vehicles are to be canceled, or implement the use of e-mail and conference calls.
- **Minimize scheduling of morning meetings between the hours of 8:00AM and 9:00AM when possible or teleconference.** Because AQHADs are declared with only one-day notice, this practice of delaying meetings should be encouraged year-round.
- **Encourage the use of a VIA Ozone Season Bus Pass.** The pass provides unlimited use of bus service on every AQHAD from April through October. The pass is only \$10 and can be purchased at any VIA Information Center (Downtown, Randolph Park & Ride, or Crossroads Park & Ride) or at their main office at 800 W. Myrtle.
- **Practice appropriate vehicle operating tips**, such as shutting off the engine when parked, avoiding excessive idling such as sitting at drive-thru's, and leaving the vehicle running while parked. Operate the vehicle only on an as-needed basis to reduce emissions. Avoid travel through known congested areas whenever possible.
- **Work schedules** should reflect limited vehicle/equipment use and should encourage multiple crew transports using higher occupancy rate vehicles.
- **Reschedule nonessential operations** such as lawn maintenance, tree trimming, and use of power saws, generators, etc., which include other gasoline-powered equipment.
- **Reschedule nonessential outdoor painting activities and other activities** that result in releases of VOCs and NO_x to evenings or better air quality days.
- **Reschedule nonessential paving activities**, including pothole repair.

Year-round, all departments will implement the following:

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- **Encourage use of public transportation and carpooling.** The City has a bus pass subsidy program and a carpool program for its employees, administered by Public Works Department, Parking Division. Call 207-8266 for more information on how to participate. Flexibility on start times will be granted to employees who ride the bus or carpool on AQHADs.
- **Practice energy conservation** in City buildings, including but not limited to: turning off lights and computers, limiting air conditioning uses, placing heat reflective films on windows, etc.
- **Educational materials** on the AQHAP and air quality in general are available to all employees and customers. To request education materials or for staff assistance in presentations, please contact the Environmental Services Department at 207-6440.
- Employees are encouraged to implement similar emission reduction measures at their homes.

Departments are directed to follow the plan as outlined above and to reschedule nonessential activities that result in emissions during AQHADs. Department Directors may modify this plan on a case by case basis if certain activities are essential to meet departmental goals. However, it is vital to our community that each City employee provides an example of what can and must be done to improve air quality.

DEPARTMENT SPECIFIC PLANS

The following departments will implement department-specific AQHAPs, taking into account their specialized services and goals:

Aviation	Environmental Services	Parks& Recreation
Building Inspections	Fire	Police
Convention Center Facilities	Metropolitan Health District	Public Works
		Purchasing

Note: Operations of these departments include the use of equipment that may result in significant air emissions. Specific plans are also included for departments which deliver health and public safety related services.

Aviation

- Airport Rescue & Firefighting will reschedule or delete job tasks as follows:
 - All drills and equipment testing will be rescheduled to off-peak times.
 - Housekeeping duties which involve the use of motor vehicles or motorized equipment will be rescheduled.
- Parking shuttle buses will practice appropriate vehicle operating tips, such as shutting off the engine when parked and operating on an as-needed basis.

Air Quality Health Alert Plan

- Airport Maintenance will reschedule or delete job tasks as follows:
 - Except as required for compliance with Federal Aviation Regulations, mowing, trimming, and landscape activities which require the use of gasoline-powered engines will be altered to off-peak times or deleted for a cycle.
 - All exterior painting activities will be rescheduled.
 - Construction equipment and asphalt pavement placement will be scheduled for optimum air quality days. Construction activities may take place during AQHADs if deemed essential.
- HVAC will suspend Freon recovery operations during AQHADs.
- Airport Police and Ground Transportation Agents will monitor curbside activities at the terminals for excessive idling of vehicles and assist with public advisories.
- Airport Operations will monitor conditions of vehicular use on the Air Operations Area of the Airport, as well as aircraft engine run-ups, and work closely with tenants to assist in control of excess emissions. All nonessential inspections that require vehicle use will be altered to off-peak times during AQHADs.
- Planning & Engineering will monitor construction activities and work closely with contractors to reschedule activities, reduce the use of or completely cease those functions or equipment operations which will contribute to poor air quality.
- Airport Parking will ensure all lot entries are in operation to avoid lines of idling vehicles waiting for entry. Likewise, monitor exit lane traffic and staff exit booths accordingly, to avoid excessive lines of idling vehicles waiting to exit.
- No fuel transport will be accepted for off-loading on AQHADs. All other off-loads of fuel will be limited to very early mornings or late evenings.
- Automotive shop vehicle engine test runs will be altered to off-peak times or rescheduled for a later date.

Building Inspections

- On AQHADs, supervisors will have an appointed number of personnel to meet them at the different service centers for the purpose of car-pooling to work.
- Supervisory personnel will transport the mail from the different service centers.
- Overtime which requires use of vehicles will be limited, except for emergencies.
- There will be no sign pickup by the Sign Section.
- There will be no bus bench ad inspections.
- Modified (flex time) reporting times will be considered for employees using public transportation.

Convention Center Facilities

- The Convention Facilities Department will modify or reschedule activities to assist in reducing the amount of VOC and NO_x generated.
- Use of Convention Facilities' forklifts will be restricted to essential use only. As much as possible, all use will be rescheduled to non-AQHADs.
- All gasoline powered equipment such as leaf blowers, pumps, etc., will not be utilized. Testing of the emergency generator will not be scheduled.
- All painting activities will be rescheduled.

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- All contracted services that can be rescheduled to non-AQHADs will be rescheduled.
- Notices will be provided to Convention Facilities Clients concerning AQHAD Measures and advising them on how to assist the City in reducing the amount of VOC and NO_x generated emissions.

Environmental Services

On AQHADs, the following practices will be implemented:

- Reschedule nonessential operations using gasoline-powered equipment, such as lawn mowers, edgers, blowers, power saws, tree trimmers, and generators.
- Reschedule nonessential construction.
- Field (tanker) refueling operations will be suspended during AQHADs.
- Operation of construction and heavy equipment will be restricted to essential use.
- Personnel shall be assigned at the job site to limit travel.

Fire

- Reduce the movement of nonpublic safety city vehicles, i.e., and reschedule deliveries.
- Field (tanker) refueling operations will be suspended.
- Reschedule bonfire permits.
- Reschedule control burning permits.
- Reschedule blasting permits.
- Reschedule indoor pyro and outdoor fireworks displays.
- Reschedule nonessential inspections on commercial establishments.
- Suspend starting the apparatus, engines, generators and PPVs at shift changes.
- Suspend hose practice and driving practice.
- Reschedule preventative maintenance.
- Suspend outdoor cooking.

Metropolitan Health District

- Outreach operations will be curtailed or deferred as much as possible, so long as the health of our clients is not compromised.
- Short notice leave requests will be considered if employees remain at home.
- Employees should remain in one location during the workday if possible.
- Bringing a lunch or walking to a nearby restaurant will be encouraged.
- Vector Control operations will be substituted with in-service training.
- All operations of Animal Control and emergency Bee Calls will be exempted.
- All employees are expected to comply with the provisions of this plan. Supervisors will be held accountable for the implementation of said plan.

Parks & Recreation

On AQHADs, the following operations will be suspended:

- Lawn mowing, edging, leaf blowing, sawing, trimming, or other operations involving the use of 2-cycle oil mixture equipment or engines.

Air Quality Health Alert Plan

- Spraying of insecticides and herbicides.
- Mixing, paving, and street patching in parks with hot asphalt concrete.
- Nonessential construction and heavy equipment use.
- Graffiti removal by spraying.
- Parking lot striping and sign painting by spraying.
- Non-essential 4-cycle mowing equipment or engines.

Police

- Each Division ensures that all Units within the Division have an AQHAP that will be implemented upon notification of an AQHAD.
- Unit AQHAP's are formulated to the activities of each individual Unit.
- Individual Unit AQHAP's should include items from the following:
 1. Reduce use of nonemergency vehicles;
 2. Reschedule nonessential operations;
 3. Enforce polluting vehicle ordinances or statutes (Uniform Division);
 4. Curtail use of Police Department Fleet; and
 5. Driver training for cadets and in-service will be delayed until 9:00 AM on AQHADs.

Public Works

On AQHADs, the following practices will be implemented:

- Reschedule nonessential operations using gasoline-powered equipment, such as lawn mowers, edgers, blowers, power saws, tree trimmers, and generators.
- Reschedule street striping and other painting activities.
- Reschedule graffiti removal activities.
- Reschedule nonessential construction.
- Field (tanker) refueling operations will be suspended during AQHADs.
- Operation of construction and heavy equipment will be restricted to essential use.
- Personnel shall be assigned at the job site to limit travel.
- In-house paving operations and mixing of hot asphaltic concrete will be suspended.
- Spraying of insecticides will be suspended.
- Crews will be reassigned to various manual tasks such as erecting signs, site cleanup, etc.

Purchasing

- The use or operations of gasoline driven lawn mowers, edgers, blowers, power saws, generators, etc., will be prohibited. Repairs to such equipment may be undertaken but testing will be delayed until the advisory has been lifted.
- Idling of vehicles or equipment being repaired or serviced will be kept to an absolute minimum. Only public safety vehicles (Police & Fire) will be road tested.
- Motor Pool vehicles will only be issued to drivers that have been cleared to perform essential duties.
- Meetings which require the movement of personnel by vehicle will be re-scheduled to begin not earlier than 10:00 AM.

Air Quality Health Alert Plan

- Painting on vehicles or equipment will be strictly prohibited.
- For vehicles assigned to each division, travel will not be initiated without the approval of the AQHAC. Request for such travel must be justifiable as essential to operations. Approved travel will be restricted to the essential function justified only. Idling of vehicles during approved travel must be kept to the absolute minimum. Under no circumstances will vehicles be left idling for the sole purpose of keeping the vehicle cool through use of the air conditioning system.
- The use of gasoline engine driven compressors to power pneumatic tools on service vehicles will be closely monitored by section supervisors. Except for tasks requiring impact wrenches, compressors will not be started.

<p style="text-align: center;">EXISTING CITY OF SAN ANTONIO LONG-TERM ACTIONS TO REDUCE EMISSIONS</p>
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The City of San Antonio has implemented a number of programs to reduce adverse impacts of emissions on air quality. The following programs have the long-term benefit of providing a cleaner year-round operation while allowing for an enhanced level of service to the community.

Cleaner-Burning Gasoline

- Negotiated with area fuel providers for the voluntary introduction of a lower Reid vapor pressure gasoline for the 1999 ozone season to the entire San Antonio market.
- Purchasing of applicable fuel line retrofit technology and electric spark controllers are being explored. Successful devices have been proven to reduce Hydrocarbon, Carbon Monoxide, and Nitrogen Oxides, while improving engine performance and fuel consumption. This is accomplished by increasing Reid vapor pressure of the fuel inside the fuel line for a cleaner burn.

Air Improvement Resources (AIR) Committee

- City, along with Bexar County, Alamo Area Council of Governments, and the Metropolitan Planning Organization, initiated the formation of a new regional air quality committee to coordinate policy, technical, and outreach issues for the San Antonio area.

Public Education Campaigns

- Developed educational brochures and book marks for children about air quality
- Provide for a public relations consultant to assist in media relations and public education efforts
- Work with area governmental entities and local media to develop outreach programs

Air Quality Health Alert Plan

- Develop air quality themes for use in advertising on bus benches and billboards
- A number of air quality summits have been held that are designed to provide business, military, and government with information on what each sector can do to improve air quality
- A Hispanic Outreach Program for air quality has been developed that will expand the current public outreach campaign into primarily Hispanic communities.
- Provide camera ready art and air quality tips to neighborhood associations who can pass out the information to individual households.
- Educational programs for military bases are being developed to increase awareness regarding emissions from motor pool operations and health risks associated with increased ozone levels.

Implementation of the Air Quality Health Alert Plan

- The City of San Antonio Ozone Action Day Plan was first implemented in 1995. This plan was modified in 2000 to the Air Quality Health Alert Plan
- Some City services are suspended, postponed, or modified during the ozone season, including: (1) mowing; (2) use of heavy equipment; (3) pothole repair; and (4) street striping
- Use of City vehicles for meetings and site visits is restricted until after 9:00 AM
- Each City department has an Air Quality Health Alert Coordinator responsible for notification to employees and compliance with the Plan
- Annual training of Coordinators will be performed

Fleet Conversion to Alternative Fuels

- Three-hundred-thirty-one (331) vehicles have been converted to propane, a cleaner burning alternative fuel
- Allow other governmental and quasi-governmental agencies to “ride” fuel contracts
- The City is evaluating the cost effectiveness and performance of hybrid-electric technology. The Purchasing Department has procured two Toyota Prius Hybrid-Electric vehicles with the intent to implement this technology into the San Antonio Fleet if the pilot project is successful

Fuel Facilities Upgrade

- Stage I Vapor Recovery Systems (VRS) are in place on the underground gasoline storage tanks at all City fueling facilities to enable recycling of fumes from the underground storage tank back to the tanker truck .
- Stage II VRS are in place on gasoline dispenser pumps at all nine eligible fueling facilities to allow for recovery of gasoline vapors from vehicle refueling. The vapors are recycled back to the underground storage tank.

Ozone Season Refueling Plan and City Motor Pool Operations

- With the installation of Stage I and Stage II VRS, all vehicles, gasoline, diesel, and propane, were allowed to refuel at all facilities without restrictions. All employees were strongly encouraged to refuel after 3 PM the day before an AQHAD episode.
- During AQHADs, City motor pool vehicles are issued only to drivers cleared to perform essential duties by their Department Director, Assistant Director or Daniel V. Cardenas, Acting Director of Environmental Services Department.

Emissions Testing

- The Purchasing Department implements a modified Inspection & Maintenance (I/M) Program using a four-gas emissions analyzer. All vehicles are tested by the I/M Program during the annual safety inspection. Any identified problems are corrected and the vehicle is re-tested.

Employee Bus Pass Program

- To encourage employee bus ridership, the City has a bus pass subsidy program for its employees. In Fiscal Year (FY) 1997-98, the City sold 4640 passes to employees and sold over 8,000 passes in FY 1998-99.
- City encourages its employees to purchase the VIA Ozone Season Pass, for unlimited rides on VIA routes on AQHADs

Employee Car Pool Program

- City has initiated a carpool program in 1999 in which spaces are provided in designated parking lots at reduced price for carpool permits

Flextime Policy

- The City has implemented a flextime policy for all employees. Department Director's shall implement their individual flextime programs for their employees.

Traffic Signal Synchronization Program

- There are approximately 1,100 signalized intersections, 68% in coordinated mode, and within the last five years, all have been retimed with help from the Governor's Energy Management Center & TxDOT using the Oil Overcharge Restitution Act. The City matched funds of \$2,068,460 from 9 grant programs which were used to upgrade the existing signal system.

Preservation of Trees

Air Quality Health Alert Plan

- The City's Landscape and Tree Preservation Ordinance attempts to preserve existing trees, encourage the planting of new trees, and encourage responsible development. The City's Arborist can provide information on trees beneficial to air quality.